

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 05517 271456Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----095883 271459Z /53

O R 271405Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
SECSTATE WASHDC 2849

S E C R E T JIDDA 5517

EXDIS

FOR ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, SA, US, EG, IS
SUBJECT: ARAB RECONCILIATION

1. DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS ABD AL-RAHMAN MANSURI TOLD AMBASSADOR AND POL COUNSELOR ON JULY 24 THAT ARAB SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE WAS CONTINUING ITS EFFORT TO BRING ABOUT ARAB RECONCILIATION. MANSOURI SAID THAT ONLY POINT STANDING IN WAY OF GETTING SADAT REACCEPTED IN ARAB RANKS WAS HIS CONTINUATION OF DIRECT CONTACTS WITH THE ISRAELI. IT IS NO LONGER NECESSARY FOR HIM TO ADMIT THAT HIS INITIATIVE WAS A MISTAKE. MAIN POINT IS FOR HIM TO AGREE NOT TO ENGAGE IN ANY FURTHER DIRECT TALKS. MANSURI WENT ON TO SAY THAT SADAT HAD ASKED COMMITTEE TO GIVE HIM UNTIL OCTOBER BEFORE BREAKING OFF DIRECT CONTACTS WITH ISRAELIS TO SEE IF HE COULD GET ANY PROGRESS THAT WOULD

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JUSTIFY CONTINUED DIRECT TALKS. COMMITTEE HAS AGREED TO GIVE HIM THAT CHANGE.

2. WE ASKED MANSURI HOW PEACE COULD BE ACHIEVED WITHOUT CONTACT. HE SAID THAT ARABS WOULD THEN RELY ON INDIRECT CONTACTS, E.G. THROUGH THE U.S., TO BRING ABOUT SITUATION WHERE GENEVA CONFERENCE COULD BE

RESUMED. HE THOUGHT THAT PROBLEM OF PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION COULD BE SOLVED BY HAVING UNIFIED ARAB DELEGATION INCLUDING PALESTINIANS IN PLENARY SESSIONS AND THEN HAVE BILATERAL WORKING GROUPS BETWEEN ISRAELIS AND INDIVIDUAL ARAB STATES TO WORK ON THEIR OWN PORTIONS OF THE SETTLEMENT. ARAB DELEGATIONS FOR WEST BANK/GAZA WORKING GROUP WOULD BE COMPOSED OF JORDANIANS, EGYPTIANS, AND PALESTINIANS.
WEST

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NNN

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